

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A health management system for managing health of each patient carrying a portable terminal, comprising:

a portable terminal which is arranged to be carried by a patient and includes
a display screen,

radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio
communication network,

storage means for storing personal information of the patient, wherein the
personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription,

an input/output device for supporting health management for the patient,
and

an emergency notification switch for causing said portable terminal to
enter an emergency notification mode; and

a database including

personal information storage means for storing the personal information
about each patient carrying said portable terminal,

medical information storage means for storing information about a
medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine, and said input/output device; and

communication means for communicating with said portable terminal
through the radio communication network,

wherein said radio communication means transmits part of the personal information stored in said storage means in starting to communicate with said database, and

wherein said database further includes

identification means for identifying the patient of said portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from said radio communication means with information stored in said personal information storage means, and

emergency handling means which is activated and provides either communication with a medical facility whose information is stored in said medical information storage means or information stored in said medical information storage means, which is necessary for the identified patient for said portable terminal, in accordance with information transmitted from said radio communication means, to said portable terminal when said portable terminal enters the emergency notification mode

said portable terminal further comprises position information acquisition means for acquiring position information of said terminal, and said emergency handling means causes said portable terminal to display information about a route from a position of said portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on said display screen on the basis of the position information transmitted from said position information acquisition means.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said radio communication means and said communication means perform encryption/decryption in

accordance with a predetermined scheme in transmitting/receiving at least part of the personal information.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) A health management system for managing health of each patient carrying a portable terminal, comprising:

a portable terminal which is arranged to be carried by a patient and includes

a display screen,

radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio communication network,

a storage means for storing personal information of the patient, wherein the personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription,

an input/output device for supporting health management for the patient,

and

an emergency notification switch for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode; and

a database including

personal information storage means for storing the personal information about each patient carrying said portable terminal,

medical information storage means for storing information about a medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine, and said input/output device; and

communication means for communicating with said portable terminal through the radio communication network,

wherein said radio communication means transmits part of the personal information stored in said storage means in starting to communicate with said database,

wherein said input/output device is an inhaler for discharging a medicine in the form of fine droplets to make the patient inhale the droplets, and the information about said input/output device includes information about handling of said inhaler, and

wherein said database further includes

identification means for identifying the patient of said portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from said radio communication means with information stored in said personal information storage means, and

emergency handling means which is activated and provides either communication with a medical facility whose information is stored in said medical information storage means or information stored in said medical information storage means, which is necessary for the identified patient for said portable terminal, in accordance with information transmitted from said radio communication means, to said portable terminal when said portable terminal enters the emergency notification mode, and

wherein said portable terminal further comprises position information acquisition means for acquiring position information of said terminal, and said emergency handling means causes said portable terminal to display information about a route from a position of said portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on said display screen on the basis of the position information transmitted from said position information acquisition means.

6. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said emergency handling means communicates with an emergency facility when no information is transmitted a predetermined period of time after said emergency handling means is activated.

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein part of the information includes information about biometrical characteristics of the patient.

8. (Currently Amended) A health management method of managing health of each patient carrying a portable terminal, including the steps of:

providing a portable terminal carried by a patient with a display screen, radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio communication network, storage means for storing personal information of the patient, an input/output device for supporting health management for the patient, and an emergency notification switch for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode;

providing a database for communicating with each portable terminal with personal information storage means for storing the personal information about each patient carrying the portable terminal, medical information storage means for storing information about a medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine, and the input/output device, and communication means for communicating with the portable terminal through the radio communication network;

transmitting part of the personal information stored in the storage means by the radio communication means when starting to communicate with the database;

identifying using the database, the patient of the portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from the radio communication means with information stored in the personal information storage means; and

activating an emergency handling means which is included in the database and which provides either communication with a medical facility whose information is stored in the medical information storage means or information stored in the medical information storage means, which is necessary for the identified patient for the portable terminal, in accordance with information transmitted from said radio communication means, to said portable terminal when said portable terminal enters the emergency notification mode,

wherein the personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription, and

said portable terminal further comprises position information acquisition means for acquiring position information of said terminal, and, in the step of activating, said emergency handling means causes said portable terminal to display information about a route from a position of said portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on said display screen on the basis of the position information transmitted from said position information acquisition means.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the radio communication means and the communication means perform encryption/decryption in

accordance with a predetermined scheme in transmitting/receiving at least part of the personal information.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A health management method of managing health of each patient carrying a portable terminal, including the steps of:

providing a portable terminal carried by a patient with a display screen, radio communication means for accessing a predetermined radio communication network, storage means for storing personal information of the patient, an input/output device for supporting health management for the patient, and an emergency notification switch for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode;

providing a database for communicating with each portable terminal with personal information storage means for storing the personal information about each patient carrying the portable terminal, medical information storage means for storing information about a medical facility, a drugstore, a medicine, and the input/output device, and communication means for communicating with the portable terminal through the radio communication network;

transmitting part of the personal information stored in the storage means by the radio communication means when starting to communicate with the database;

identifying, using the database, the patient of the portable terminal by collating the part of the information transmitted from the radio communication means with information stored in the personal information storage means; and

activating an emergency handling means which is included in the database and which provides either communication with a medical facility whose information is stored in the medical information storage means or information stored in the medical information storage means, which is necessary for the identified patient for the portable terminal, in accordance with information transmitted from said radio communication means, to said portable terminal when said portable terminal enters the emergency notification mode,

wherein the input/output device is an inhaler for discharging a medicine in the form of fine droplets to make the patient inhale the droplets, and the information about the input/output device includes information about handling of the inhaler,

~~and wherein~~ the personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription, and

said portable terminal further comprises position information acquisition means for acquiring position information of said terminal, and, in the step of activating, said emergency handling means causes said portable terminal to display information about a route from a position of said portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on said display screen on the basis of the position information of transmitted from said position information acquisition means.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein in the database, when no information is transmitted a predetermined period of time after a specific signal is transmitted from the radio communication means, communication is made to an emergency facility.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein part of the information includes information about biometrical characteristics of the patient.

15. to 99. (Cancelled)

100. (Currently Amended) An information provision method for providing medical information about health, a medical treatment or a medicine from a database, comprising steps of:

receiving, from a portable terminal carried by a patient through a network, patient information stored in the portable terminal and an emergency notification for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode, wherein the patient information includes a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription;

identifying ~~[[a]]~~ the patient of the portable terminal by collating the patient information transmitted from the portable terminal with personal information stored in the database; and

activating an emergency handling means which is included in the database and which provides ~~providing~~ either communication with a medical facility or the medical information stored in the database to the portable terminal of the identified patient in the emergency notification mode,

wherein said portable terminal further comprises position information acquisition means for acquiring position information of said terminal. and, in the step of activating, said emergency handling means causes said portable terminal to display information about a route from a position of said portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on said display

screen on the basis of the position information transmitted from said position information acquisition means.

101. (Currently Amended) An information provision method for providing medical information about health, a medical treatment or a medicine from a database, comprising steps of:

receiving, from a portable terminal carried by a patient through a network, patient information stored in the portable terminal and an emergency notification for causing said portable terminal to enter an emergency notification mode;

identifying ~~[[a]] the patient of the portable terminal~~ by collating the patient information transmitted from the portable terminal with personal information stored in the database; and

activating an emergency handling means which is included in the database and which provides providing either communication with a medical facility or the medical information stored in the database to the portable terminal of the identified patient in the emergency notification mode,

wherein said portable terminal includes an inhaler which discharges a medicine on the basis of an ink-jet scheme using heat,

~~and wherein~~ the personal information includes information of a clinical chart of the patient and a prescription, and

said portable terminal further comprises position information acquisition means for acquiring position information of said terminal, and, in the step of activating, said emergency handling means causes said portable terminal to display information about a route from a

position of said portable terminal to a suitable medical facility or drugstore on said display screen on the basis of the position information transmitted from said position information acquisition means.

102. (Cancelled)

103. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 100, wherein the medical information is route information about a suitable medical facility or drugstore for the identified patient.